

SOAR Meeting Summary

Burlingame, CA

March 18-19, 2003

Opening Remarks

Tony Wylie and Ron Sparks welcomed attendees and new members were introduced. Tony thanked the SOAR members for their flexibility in accommodating the change in meeting location. Tony and Ron reviewed the planned agenda: updates on projects in ZHU, ZNY, ZOA and ZAN; discussion of project management and reporting; review of budget spend plans for FY03; and planning for FY04. Dave Maynard from ZOA offered a tour of the ATOPS installation at ZOA on the afternoon of March 19, which the group graciously accepted. Finally, Tony and Ron announced that this would be Jim Dominguez's last meeting as the SOAR ZOA NATCA representative. The group thanked Jim for his good work with SOAR and wished him well in his new role as ZOA's ATOPS NATCA representative. Jim stated that a new ZOA NATCA representative would be named soon and that he would pass on the information as soon as it is available.

SOAR Project Updates

Gulf Projects – ZHU: Charlie Montgomery presented a briefing on current operational issues in the Gulf of Mexico, highlighting two recent operational errors caused by the poor communications and surveillance over the Gulf. Charlie's briefing highlighted the need for efficient coordination between ZHU and ZMA. Challenges include operations continuing to increase (12-20% growth from 2002-2003) in the Gulf and equipment limitations (older aircraft being acquired by charters). The proposed solution is to adjust routes and airspace boundaries between ZHU/ZMA/ZJX to allow ZHU to take advantage of the radar airspace.

Anchorage Projects – ZAN: Tony presented a quick update of the two projects ZAN is working. On the ZAN/ZOA Dynamic Boundary Project, a meeting between the two facilities is planned for the April timeframe. Schedule uncertainties with ATOPS has effected this project. On the ZAN Oceanic Area Project, the new sector is in and early May is the expected operational date for the project. Training is proceeding on schedule.

New York Projects – ZNY: Bruce Barrett started the New York presentation with a short update on the ZNY offshore routes. The routes are being extended but the issue of BUECs in Southern region still exists. Currently use of the routes is restricted and ZNY would like to add additional city pairs. On the Coded Caribbean Routes Project, progress depends on a joint meeting with ZMA and ZJX. The meeting is planned for later this spring.

Oakland Projects – ZOA: Dave stated that the ZOA Gateway Project has updated its charter. The new project will be phased. Jim briefed the group on the concept for the first phase of the project, taking advantage radar airspace, adding more westbound transition points and moving the boundaries of radar airspace further west. This initial phase requires coordination with ZSE but will not impact airspace boundaries between

ZSE and ZOA. Later phases of the Gateway project will explore the utility of airspace reallocation with ZOA, ZLA and ZSE.

SOAR Project Management and Reporting

Tony and Ron asked Joe White to give the group a synopsis of the revised project reporting processes. Joe explained that a status report for each funded NAR project is due to ATA HQ each month. MS Project plan updates are due to ATA HQ each quarter. Pat Bergt, an AMTI contractor in Alaska Region, will be working with Tony to coordinate these updates. Each SOAR facility FLT will be responsible for preparing materials and submitting them to Pat by the 25th of each month (so the reports can be submitted by the HQ deadlines). Tony passed out copies of the project management materials and guidelines.

Tony and Ron also outlines the new project organization for SOAR. There will be three mega-projects: Pacific, Gulf, and Atlantic. The FY03 projects align in the following manner:

- Atlantic: Coded Caribbean Routes, ZMA's proposed project
- Gulf: ZMA/ZJX/ZHU Boundaries, ZHU Mexico Routes
- Pacific: ZAN/ZOA Dynamic Boundaries, ZOA Gateway, ZAN Oceanic

On budgets, Pat will have all accounting codes. All reporting should go through Pat (accounting, overtime, vouchers, and purchases).

To familiarize everyone, Lee Brown walked the group through the MS Project condensed template using the ZMA/ZJX/ZHU Boundaries Project. To help the SOAR FLTs prepare for the first quarterly submission of the MS Project timelines, Lee will email an MS Excel spreadsheet to each facility. The FLTs can use this worksheet to fill in dates if they do not have access the MS Project.

FY03 Budget Spend Plan Review

The group reviewed the most recent spend plans submitted to ATA HQ. Tony recorded proposed changes and will have Pat update the spend plans for re-submission.

FY04 Planning

The group discussed potential projects for submission to the FY04 NAR planning process. Material will be needed in June for the July ALT. Project prosals include:

- Atlantic Projects: routes/corridors for ZDC and ZNY, redesigning non-radar airspace, exploring East Coast warning area efficiencies
- Pacific Projects: post-ATOPS, ZOA resectorization of oceanic airspace
- Gulf Projects: ZHU/ZJX redesign post-ADS-B experiments

ZOA Visit

At the conclusion of the meeting in Burlingame, Dave led the group on a tour of the ODAPS and ATOPS equipment at ZOA.

Attendees

Name	Organization	Phone
Bruce Barrett	ZNY 540E	631-468-1438
Lee Brown	MITRE	703-883-7618
Leslie Cary	AAT-30	202-267-9601
Jim Dominguez	ZOA NATCA	510-745-3342
David Maynard	ZOA-520	510-745-3543
Charles Montgomery	ZHU	281-230-5582
Jeff Potash	ZNY NATCA	631-468-1495
Ron Sparks	ZAN NATCA	907-269-1103
Brian Throop	ATP-130	202-267-3160
Joe White	ATA-200	202-267-9245
Tony Wylie	AAL-530	907-271-5470

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